

AD-A047 734 MARYLAND UNIV COLLEGE PARK DEPT OF INFORMATION SYSTE--ETC F/G 9/2
THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PERFORMANCE EVALUATION MODEL FOR DBMS NETW--ETC(U)
AUG 77 E H SIBLEY, A REITER DAAG 29-76-G-0247

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ADA 047734

REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE		READ INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE COMPLETING FORM
1. REPORT NUMBER Final rept. 25 May 76-24 May 77	2. SPONSOR ACCESSION NO.	3. RECIPIENT'S CATALOG NUMBER
4. TITLE (and subtitle) THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PERFORMANCE EVALUATION MODEL FOR DBMS NETWORK STRUCTURES.		5. TYPE OF REPORT & PERIOD COVERED Final May 25, 1976-May 24, 1977
6. PERFORMING ORG. REPORT NUMBER		
7. AUTHOR(s) Edgar H. Sibley Univ. of Maryland		8. CONTRACT OR GRANT NUMBER(s) DAAG 29-76-G-0247 New
9. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME AND ADDRESS Dr. Edgar H. Sibley Dept. of Information Systems Management University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742		10. PROGRAM ELEMENT, PROJECT, TASK AREA & WORK UNIT NUMBERS
11. CONTROLLING OFFICE NAME AND ADDRESS U. S. Army Research Office Post Office Box 12211 Research Triangle Park, NC 27709		12. REPORT DATE 12 Aug 77
14. MONITORING AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS (if different from Controlling Office) Office of Sponsored Programs University of Maryland South Administration Building College Park, MD 20742		13. NUMBER OF PAGES 3 pages
16. DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT (of this Report) Approved for public release; distribution unlimited.		15. SECURITY CLASS. (of this report) Unclassified
17. DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT (of the abstract entered in Block 20, if different from Report) NA		15a. DECLASSIFICATION/DOWNGRADING SCHEDULE NA
18. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES The findings in this report are not to be construed as an official Department of the Army position, unless so designated by other authorized documents.		
19. KEY WORDS (Continue on reverse side if necessary and identify by block number) Simulation Database Database Management Systems Data Models Network Models		
20. ABSTRACT (Continue on reverse side if necessary and identify by block number) The field of database management systems (DBMS) is one of the most rapidly expanding areas in automated information technology today. One of the major problems faced by the users of DBMS is the decision on what types of problems best suit what classes of systems, and what improvements (or minor reprogramming) could really pay off in terms of better performance for small capital outlay. This proposal seeks to model one particular class of DBMS: the network structured system; this model will aid the user in tuning the overall systems for better performance, and help the designer of the information systems in making bet-		

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FINAL REPORT

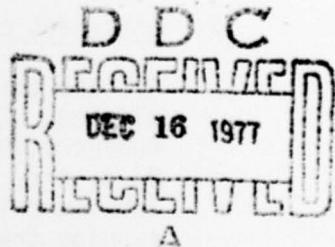
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AUGUST 12, 1977

U.S. ARMY RESEARCH OFFICE

ARO GRANT ARO-DAAG 29-76-G-0247

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CONSTRUED AS AN OFFICIAL DEPARTMENT OF THE
ARMY POSITION, UNLESS SO DESIGNATED BY
OTHER AUTHORIZED DOCUMENTS.

1. Statement of Problem

The proposal stated that the investigators would design and build a performance evaluation model of data bases management systems (DBMS) which has a network-type data structure. Such a data organization was proposed by the Data Bases Task Group (DBTG) of CODASYL'S Programming Language Committee for inclusion in the COBOL language. Preliminary implementations are or will shortly be available on most large scale and some mini-computers, and it is being investigated by the ANSI/SPARC committee on Data Bases as a possible industry standard. Such a model is useful in estimating the capacity of a proposed system, in evaluating the effects of changes in a hardware configuration, and in experimenting with data structures and scheduling and resource-management algorithms. It is particularly suitable for evaluating a "back-end" computer, i.e. a machine dedicated to data management tasks whose interface (usually to another computer) is via DBTG data manipulation language statements acting as its primitive command structure.

Although the model is general and could be used in a wide class of data base structures, the concepts and programs have been tested by modelling parts of a specific application.

The tasks of the proposed research were as follows:

- Convert and install programs of existing model,
- Write and debug subroutines modelling DBTG data manipulation operations,
- Develop models of application programs,
- Run model for selected configurations, and
- Document system and results.

2. Statement of Important Results

All the tasks listed in the above statement of the problem were accomplished. The conversion and installation was principally completed by February 1977, however, the final system was not operational at the U. S. Army Computer Systems Command until 8 August 1977, due to problems experienced in installing the system and the difficulty of arranging travel from Israel.

All subroutines and application program models were developed by April 1977. The running of the models was accomplished between October 1976 and June 1977.

Draft documentation was provided to the Army Computer Systems Command in February 1977, and a final version was supplied in June 1977. A technical report was produced by the authors of this report in July 1977; it is titled "Simulation and Data Administration", and a later version will be submitted for publication in the near future.

3. Technical Reports

The following reports are available:

- I. "DIMUI - IDMS Users Manual Version 1.2" by Dr. Allen Reiter, Technion, Israel. Technical Report #101, June 1977, pp 72.
- II. "Simulation and Data Administration" by Dr. A. Reiter and Dr. E. H. Sibley, Dept. of Information Systems Management, University of Maryland. IFSM T.R. No. 22, July 1977, pp 27.

4. Personnel

The principal investigator was Dr. E. H. Sibley of the University of Maryland. The special consultant was Dr. A. Reiter of the Technion in Israel. Others supported on this grant included: Dr. Ben Schneiderman, Faculty Associate; Ms. Janet Prochazka, Research Assistant; and Ms. Bonnie Zager, Typist.

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